## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of: Rui B. FERREIRA et al

Serial No. 09/341,635

Filing Date: July 14, 1999

Examiner: N. Torres Velazquez

Group Art Unit: 1771

For: Wet-Laid Nonwoven Web From Unpulped Natural Fibers And Composite

JAN 3 0 2002

Containing Same

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

TC 1700

## RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

In response to the Office Action dated October 10, 2001, Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendment and consideration of the following remarks.

## **AMENDMENT**

## In the claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Cancel claim 1 without prejudice to filing in a later application.

- 2. (amended) The nonwoven web material of claim [1] 5 wherein the natural fiber bundles are cordage fibers.
- 3. (twice amended) The nonwoven web material of claim [1] 5 wherein the natural fiber bundles are selected from sisal, abaca, henequen, kenaf and jute.